

LITTLE HULTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Health
AND
Sanitary Reports,
AND
STATISTICS
FOR
Year Ending December 31st, 1905.

J. H. MARSH, Medical Officer.

J. T. DAVIES, Surveyor and Inspector.

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1906.

Medical Officer's Report.



MOORSIDE,

LITTLE HULTON,

FEBRUARY 24TH, 1906.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE LITTLE
HULTON DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Ninth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the Little Hulton Urban District for the year 1905.

Area of District in Statute Acres	1,699
Total Population of All Ages	7,294
Number of Inhabited Houses	1,596
Average Number of Persons per House	4.5

Births registered during the year were 211 (104 males, 107 females), 11 more than last year, and equal to a rate of 28.9 per 1000 of the estimated population.

County Birth-rate for 1904 was 25.56 per 1000.

Deaths numbered 109 (61 males, 48 females), an increase of 10 on last year, and corresponding to a rate of 14.9 per 1000, the average Death-rate for the past eight years being 15.1.

County Death-rate for 1904 was 15.54 per 1000.

Increment of Life, viz., the excess of Births over Deaths was 102 (43 males, 59 females).

Table IV. gives a Summary of Causes of Death and the Mortality-Age in Groups.

Infant Mortality.—The deaths of children under one year old numbered 19, as against 34 last year, and were caused by “whooping cough” 1, “diarrhoeal diseases” 4, “premature birth” 3, “congenital defects and debility” 7, “injury at birth” 1, “bronchitis and pneumonia” 3. One death was uncertified. The death rate is equivalent to 2.6 per 1000 of the population, and 90.04 as compared with 1000 births. On Table V. you will see that 8 of the deaths were children under one month old, 6 were between one and four months, and 5 were between five and seven months. It is satisfactory to note that this year’s Infant Mortality Rate is much the lowest since I was appointed your Medical Officer in 1897, the average rate per 1000 Births for the past eight years being 139.4. I trust the Technical Instruction Committee will again include in their Syllabus, Nursing Classes, particularly suitable to Mothers, and mostly dealing with the bringing up of young children.

County Rate of Deaths, under one year, to 1000 Births for 1904 was 157.

Zymotic Mortality.— The seven principal Zymotic Diseases, viz., “small-pox,” “measles,” “scarlet fever,” “whooping cough,” “enteric fever,” “diarrhoea,” and “diphtheria” and “membranous croup” accounted for ten deaths, the same number as last year, and equivalent to a rate of 1.3 per 1000. Three deaths were caused by “measles,” two by “whooping cough,” one by “enteric fever,” and four by “diarrhoea,” nine of these being children under five years old.

County Zymotic Death-rate for 1904 was 1.93 per 1000.

Respiratory Diseases.— The three main diseases, “bronchitis,” “pneumonia,” and “pleurisy” caused 26 deaths, three more than last year, giving a rate equal to 3.5 per 1000. Seven of these deaths were children under five years of age, and four were persons over sixty-five.

County Respiratory Death-rate for 1904 was 2.88 per 1000.

Tuberculous Phthisis occasioned eight deaths, an increase of five as compared with last year, and corresponding to a rate 1.09 per 1000. One of these deaths was a child under five years old, and six were persons between the ages of 25 and 65 years. Voluntary notification of this disease has not so far been the success we had hoped, only a small proportion of the cases being notified, and some of these only a few days before death, in one case the certificate being received the day after the patient had died. It is also difficult to persuade affected persons that they are a danger to the community, and that for the sake of others they ought to observe certain precautions.

County Phthisical Rate for 1904 was 0.90 per 1000.

Infectious Diseases.—Eighty-three cases were notified, 31 less than in last year. Of these 7 were due to “diphtheria” and “membranous croup,” 5 to “erysipelas,” 54 to “scarlet fever,” 12 to “enteric fever,” 1 to “puerperal fever,” and 4 to “pulmonary tuberculosis.” Forty-seven of these cases were sent to your Joint Infectious Diseases Hospital, as against fifty-four last year, viz., 2 of “diphtheria,” 41 of “scarlet fever,” and 4 of “enteric fever.” Particulars of each case, as well as of the insanitary condition of the infected premises have been regularly laid before you in my register. All the infected houses have been fumigated and sprayed, the clothing, etc., disinfected, and in some cases destroyed.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.—The number of cases notified were six less than in 1904, and none were fatal.

Scarlet Fever accounts for 66 per cent. of the total cases notified, and were 54 in number, fourteen less than in 1904. Most of these cases occurred in the first few months of the year, during the outbreak on which I reported last year. Children who have had this disease, especially those who have suffered from severe throat and nasal complications, should not be allowed to resume school duties until medically certified as free from infection. Such cases, even after weeks of apparent convalescence are quite capable of infecting others, especially young children when aggregated in small, badly-ventilated class-rooms.

Enteric Fever. — Twelve cases were notified, as against 14 last year. One case proved fatal, and was a resident in Manchester Road East, who contracted the disease whilst on a visit in Blackpool. His clothes and bedding were destroyed, and a sum was granted by you to replace them. Invariably defective sanitary arrangements, unpaved yards and streets, have been associated with the premises in which these cases have occurred.

Puerperal Fever. — The one case notified was a resident in Manchester Road East, West Ward. The midwife was suspended from practice for a month, and directions were given to her as to the proper disinfection of herself, clothes, bag, etc. I also duly reported the case to the County Medical Officer. The Midwives Bill, which was passed in July, 1902, came into force on April 1st, 1905, and is an Act to secure the better training of midwives, and to regulate their practice; one of the rules stipulates that no midwife shall undertake the duty of laying out the dead, and any midwife doing so runs the risk of having her name removed from the roll. Nine midwives have been registered in your district.

Measles and Whooping Cough gave rise to five deaths, all of them being children under five years of age. It is generally recognised that children under this age are those mostly attacked, and that Infant Schools are great factors in the spreading of these diseases. As a means of diminishing outbreaks, which for the past few years have been on the increase in your district, and as the law does not require children under the age of five years to attend school, I would recommend you to adopt the resolution submitted to each educational area, and not allow any more children under that age to attend school. The result, I feel confident, would be the better development of the future generation, both physically and mentally, and financially. The township would benefit in a reduction of heavy hospital charges and educational rates and requirements. Parents, too, should not be urged to send their children to school when not in good health, as it is then they are most liable to contract disease.

The Water Supply, with the exception of some weeks in the summer months, when the quantity was limited, has been satisfactory.

Slaughter Houses, Dairies, and Cowsheds, have been kept under observation, and general cleanliness and lime-washing was being observed. Few structural alterations have been made, ventilation, air-space, and drainage being still required in a number of them.

General Sanitary Matters. — Few complaints have been made in the scavenging, which is still in the hands of contractors. Four of the principal side streets have been paved, viz., Highfield Road, Smithfold Lane, Bk. Clegg Lane, and Watson St. The Septic Tank at your Ellenbrook Works has been emptied, and defects made good. Both sewage works have kept up their high effluent standard. Two houses were condemned as unfit for human habitation, and demolished, and a large number of nuisances have been remedied. There has not been much improvement in the smoke nuisance, though the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour, viz., 10 minutes, is a low one. Two chimneys in particular, neither of them being anything like the height they ought to be, are the worst offenders, and ought to be strictly dealt with. Nine observations have been made, and warnings given, but no legal proceedings taken.

Factories and Workshops number 30, viz., 9 factories, 8 workshops, and 13 workplaces have been inspected, and, with one or two exceptions, were found satisfactory as regards cleanliness and ventilation. I regret a number of factories have not so far adopted the "water-carriage" system in their sanitary conveniences, and there has been no alteration yet in the objectionably situated and unsatisfactory closets in the Worsley Road Mill.

I am,

Yours obediently,

JOHN HOLT MARSH,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1905 and Previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
				Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*
1897	7178	226	31'4	34	150'4	117	16'29
1898	7256	222	30'5	38	171'1	115	15'84
1899	7256	221	30'45	29	131'22	122	16'81
1900	7256	204	28'1	35	171'5	124	17'09
1901	7256	225	31'06	27	120	105	14'4
1902	7294	243	33'3	25	102'8	98	13'4
1903	7294	199	27'2	20	100'5	94	12'8
1904	7294	200	27'4	34	170	99	13'5
Averages for years 1895-1904.	—	—	29'9	—	139'4	—	15'1
1905	7294	211	28'9	19	90'04	109	14'9

* Rates in Columns 4 and 8 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.
Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 1699 statute.
Total Population at all Ages 7294 } At Census
Number of Inhabited Houses 1596 } of
Average Number of Persons per House 4'5 } 1901.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.						
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					At all Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	
		1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.							
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	}	7	2	...	4	1	...	2	...	2	...	...	...
Membranous Croup													
Erysipelas	...	5	...	1	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	54	18	34	1	1	...	41	...	9	30	1	1
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	12	2	3	1	6	...	4	...	1	2	...	1
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pul. Tuberculosis (Vol.) ...	...	4	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	83	22	39	7	13	2	47	...	12	32	1	2	

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1905.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.						
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	3	...	3	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Mem- braneous Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever } Typhus.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other cont'd	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	4	3	1	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Septic Diseases.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	8	...	1	1	...	6	...
Other Tubercular Diseases	5	...	1	2	...	1	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	2	...	...	...	...	1	1
Bronchitis	14	1	5	...	...	7	1
Pneumonia	11	1	...	1	...	6	3
Pleurisy	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs.	4	1	...	...	...	3	...
Alcoholism } Cirrhosis of Liver }	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Venereal Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	3	3	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and Acci- dents of Parturition	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Heart Diseases	10	...	...	...	...	9	1
Accidents.....	4	...	...	...	...	3	1
Suicides	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inquests, other than above	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility...	8	8	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebral Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All other Causes	26	...	...	2	3	7	14
All Causes	109	19	12	6	5	45	22

TABLE V.
Infantile Mortality during the Year 1905.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under
 One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	3-4 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES.	Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
	Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
<i>Common Infectious Diseases :</i>											
Whooping Cough		...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
<i>Diarrhæal Diseases :</i>											
Diarrhœa, all forms		...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	3
Enteritis (not Tuberculous)		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
<i>Wasting Diseases :</i>											
Premature Birth		1	...	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	3
Congenital Defects		1	2	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	4
Injury at Birth		1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus		...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	3
Bronchitis		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Pneumonia		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Total		3	2	1	2	8	1	5	1	4	19

Population (Estimated to middle of 1905), 7294.

Births in the year (legitimate), 211.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 109.

Factory and Workshops Inspection.

I.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries.)	9	None.	None.
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries.)	8	None.	None.
WORKPLACES.....	13	None.	None.
HOMEWORKERS' PREMISES.....	—	—	—
TOTAL.....	30	—	—

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>		
Want of Cleanliness	1	Lime-washed.
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient.....	—	—
{ Unsuitable or defective	1	Not remedied.
{ Not separate for sexes	—	—
	2	1

Surveyor's Report.



SURVEYOR'S OFFICE,

LITTLE HULTON, DEC. 31ST, 1905.

To the Chairman and Members of the Little Hulton District Council.

GENTLEMEN,—

In submitting my Annual Report of the work done during the year, 1905, it is a pleasure to find that progress is still the dominant feature.

There have been 16 houses built, and two demolished, making the number of houses in Little Hulton 1596. Twelve have been built in Clegg's Lane, 3 on Manchester Road, East, and one in Hilton Lane. The two pulled down were in Court No. 1.

Highways.

The ordinary grants for the maintenance of these roads are far too small, but it is quite an evident fact that any further help will only be given as a special aid, so that the County Council can have a say as to how and where such money may be spent. The usual allowance has been spent as follows: Repairs to paving in Worsley Road, costing £55 14s 5d. The remainder was "pooled" with the special grant to Clegg's Lane, as this road was in such an extraordinary bad condition. Thus £210 15s 9d has been spent on this road, and it is expected another substantial grant will be made during the coming year, so that the road may be put into a sanitary and safe state for traffic.

Manchester Road, from Clegg's Lane to Greenheys, has also received some attention, over 2000 square yards of paving having been taken up and repaved and pitched, etc., yet the pavement, especially from Kenyon Arms to Peel Lane, is very bad, and I trust we shall be able to attend to this in the coming year.

We received an extra special grant for the repair of the macadam from Clegg's Lane, the area of which is 1050 superficial yards, this being done just before the close of the year.

The Lancashire E. P. Co. have passed their cables through Clegg's Lane and Manchester Road, taking the footpath in Clegg's Lane, and the macadam roadway along Manchester Road.

As a secondary road, Hilton Lane has again received a double portion, giving about £150, which has been spent in restoring the portion from Walkden boundary towards Burgess Farm.

It is a matter for regret that no assistance could be given towards flagging any portion of Clegg's Lane or Worsley Road. These roads, having very broad cinder footpaths, they form the nucleus for clouds of dust in summer, and insanitary muddy surfaces in winter.

Scavenging of the roads, while being fairly well done, would be better kept in hand if more money was allowed for this work, and if the County cannot be prevailed upon to give more help, it will devolve upon your Council to spend out of the rate, as the cleanliness of the roads must have some effect upon the health of the people using them, and living near to them. In frosty weather the cinder footpaths and macadam roadways are always shockingly bad for everybody using either, and this should not be lost sight of when we are tempted to complain at these times.

Pitched and paved roads, flagged footpaths, and "if macadam," then tarred macadam roads will certainly tend to cleaner streets and less dust and mud, and cost a considerable less amount for attending to them.

Private Streets.—Four of these have been improved during the year, viz., Highfield Road, Watson Street, Smithfold Lane, and Back Clegg's Lane.

The work done in these streets was as follows :—

Cost.								Paving.	Draining.	Flagging.	Excavat			
£	s.	d.						Sq. yds.	Lin. yds.	Sq. yds.	ing, &c. Cub. yds.			
184	17	6	...	Watson Street	...	...	...	271	...	113	...	141	...	112
509	0	4	...	Smithfold Lane	...	...	...	940	...	123	...	295	...	590
395	9	9	...	Bk. Clegg's Lane	...	...	...	978	...	196	...	—	...	670
852	7	1	...	Highfield Road	...		...	1,324	...	247	...	605	...	915

These roads were all ballasted with stone, paving grouted with pitch, grit kerbs, and concrete flags, presenting a neat and clean appearance.

Sewers and Sewage Works.

The sewers have been flushed twice during the year, and all manholes cleaned out. They have been free from trouble or complaints. Worsley Road Sewage Works has continued to keep its standard of excellence, even the new extension has not come behind in good results.

Ellenbrook Works, which has the lion's share of the work, has been found somewhat wanting on one occasion only, and while this caused no anxiety, yet it was deemed wise to go into a detailed examination of the works, with the result that the septic tank was found to be gradually filling up, and it was determined to empty it. This was not a light matter, as owing to its form of construction, it was necessary to draw off the top water before the sludge could be removed. However, levels were taken, and it was found that a drain might be cut to a low portion of land on which a farmer was willing to allow it to run, and the work was at once proceeded with; suffice it to say we got to the sludge (and, by the kindness of the Chairman of the Council, who willingly supplied waggons, rails, and sleepers for the work free of cost), we were enabled to speedily remove it on to a field near, where having stood for a few weeks to dry, the farmer carted it away free of cost. The amount of sludge removed from the tank was estimated to be about 275 tons. The tank had been working six years and five months. The reports from the Rivers Pollution Board are always of a very gratifying nature, and speaks well for the careful manner the Sewage Works Manager discharges his responsible duties.

Lighting.

The lighting is done in a more satisfactory manner, and having three lamplighters, instead of two, allows the work to be done more expeditiously. There has been an extension of the service down Tynesbank, and four lamps have been fixed, proving a great boon to a large number of workpeople using this road. The Council might also consider whether it would not be a wise proceeding to light Grosvenor-street in view of the numbers of young ladies who have to pass along this street morning and evening.

Report of the Inspector of Nuisances.

GENTLEMEN,—

The Sanitary condition of the district is the constant care of your Inspector, who is eager at all times to maintain a standard of efficiency such as might be a credit to the Council and its officers.

The work of the past year in this department is detailed under the following heads and tables :—

TABLE I.

Number of Nuisances dealt with	172
„ „ Visits paid to premises	751
„ „ Interviews with owners or agents... ..	67
„ „ Visits to infectious cases	178
„ „ Notices served	18
„ „ Rooms limewashed	134
	1,320

TABLE II.

Description of nuisances dealt with :—

Defective Water Closets	8
„ Drains	79
„ Slop Pipes	17
„ Spouts	7
„ Houses	15
„ Yards	18
„ Ashpits	28
	172

TABLE III.

Visits made to nuisance during abatement	304
Visits during which nuisances were discovered	172
Houses specially inspected	178
Inspections made of new buildings during erection	32

Nuisances.—That 172 nuisances can be found in this district shows how careless people may become because a nuisance is something which may either be avoided; or by being dealt with promptly when it did occur, the necessity for reporting would never occur, at the same time it is very pleasing to be able to record that all these nuisances have been abated without resource to unpleasant proceedings.

Alterations and Repairs.—Although 28 ashpits were found defective, in only 5 has it been found possible to prevail on the owners to convert them into water closets, and again suggest the advisability of the Council making grants equal to half the cost to owners who were willing to change the existing privies to water closets, and I would like to see a bye law made that all new buildings should have water closets instead of the disreputable stinking and unsanitary privy.

Drains.—It is very unsatisfactory to find so many drains blocked especially when it is remembered that in nearly all cases it is found attributable to carelessness on the part of the occupier, who will persist in taking off the gully top when emptying the dolly-tub in which they have left some small article of clothing; in fact, scrubbing-brushes have been found in stopped drains many times, and it cannot be too strongly impressed on the minds of occupiers that they are liable for the expense thus incurred in abating a nuisance arising from these causes.

Dairies and Cowsheds, and Slaughter Houses have been regularly visited, and they are generally kept in a fair condition, the limewashing is a feature very regularly carried out, and the cleansing of slaughter-houses has been very efficiently done.

Bakehouses may be classed as good in all particulars relating to limewashing and ventilation. They are mostly of the domestic class, and call for no special remark.

Workshops and Factories.—While these places are generally well attended to, we have still two factories at least where the sanitary conveniences might be better, and we shall have to continue to press for them to be put into a more acceptable state.

Diseased Meat, &c.—It has been found necessary during the year to make away with four cases of oranges that had been left in the care of a resident until they were putrid, and the owner not coming for them, they were destroyed.

Ashpit Emptying and Removal of House Refuse.—As beforetime, this work has been done by contractors, and in only one or two instances has there been any complaints. Of course it does not follow that it could not be better done, because it might be, but on years gone by it is a tremendous improvement. Although repeated warnings have been given to people not to throw slops of any kind into the ashpit, it is still ignorantly persisted in, and I am afraid only drastic measures will awaken people to the danger of such a course.

Infectious Diseases.—That there has been so large a reduction in infectious disease is a very pleasing thing, and we would like to hope that there will be a still further reduction in the coming year.

Smoke Observations.—Several observations have been made, and in one or two instances it was reported that the 10-minute rule had been infringed, and I am of the opinion that so long as the Council take no action, neither will the creators of this form of nuisance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

JAMES T. DAVIES,

Surveyor and Inspector.

